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June 16, 1998

TO:

Minerals File

FROM:

Lynn Kunzler, Senior Reclamation Specialist

RE:

American Stone Company, Heber Quarry, S/051/001, Wasatch County, Utah

Date of Inspection:

May 29, 1998

Time of Inspection:

8:15 a.m.

Conditions: Participants:

Clear, warm Lynn Kunzler and Tom Munson, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To document site conditions.

This inspection was conducted in response to a public complaint regarding this quarry, indicating that the quarry had expanded beyond the permitted five (5) acre disturbance allowed for a small mining operation.

Using a Global Positioning System (GPS) roving station, three of the five major work areas were measured to determine the acreage currently disturbed. The other two areas were estimated, based on the size of the measured areas and pacing. The GPS unit could no longer be used due to loss of satellite signals necessary to assure reasonable accuracy. The access road was measured using the vehicle odometer and measuring the width at several places to get an average width. A rough sketch of the quarry area and acreage for each area is attached. Results of these measurements confirm in excess of ten (10) acres of current disturbance, more that double the acreage involved to qualify for a small mining operation.

During the process of measuring the disturbed area, several other areas of concern were noted. Along the eastern edge of disturbed area #2 a considerable amount of trash and debris has been dumped over the side. This included mine related debris (wood and broken pallets), as well as household trash. This appears to be in violation of rules that require all trash and debris to be properly disposed of. Near the northern end of disturbed area #3, a fuel tank (estimated 500 gallon capacity) and eight 50-gallon barrels of fuel were stored. A significant amount of fuel had apparently leaked, or has been spilled on the ground. A containment structure or berm that would contain a spill has not been installed. This may be in violation of storage tank requirements. Evidence of recent activity in disturbed area #5 was observed. At some time material has rolled down the outslope and was observed near the county road. Without a safety fence (net) or berm to catch this material, a potential safety hazard exists to passing motorists.

Other items of interest observed at this site was a near-new excavator and front-end loader. A crew of two people were working in disturbed area #1 and were apparently living in camp trailers located near the entry gate.

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Meeting with the Wasatch County officials, it was brought to our attention that the County has requested that American Stone clean up the dump and remove the labor camp from the site (these activities are not approved by the County). The County also indicated that they do not hold any surety for this site. We indicated that a Notice of Non-Compliance would possibly be issued against American Stone, and that, at a minimum, American Stone will be required to file a Notice of Intention to Conduct Large Mining Operations and post a reclamation surety. An interim surety would be required within approximately one month, based on costs for reclamation at similar sites. The surety would then be adjusted to calculated 'third-party' costs of reclamation once we had an acceptable mining and reclamation plan.

Several photos were taken to document site conditions

jb

cc:

Lon Thomas, American Stone Robert Mathis, Wasatch County Dan Moquin, AG's Office

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